5th March 1925]

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" As I said, if the hon. Member insists upon having the information, I shall get it."

Mr. R. SRINIVASA AYYANGAR :—" I want the information, Sir."

Mr. R. VEERIAN :—" May I know how many of these Assistant Registrars belong to the depressed classes ? "

The hon. Diwan Bahadur T. N. SIVAGNANAM PILLAI :—" The answer will be furnished along with the answer promised to be furnished."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" Will the hon. the Minister consider that there are a large number of co-operative credit societies existing among the fishermen folk and think it advisable to have one among the fishermen community to inspect the fishermen societies ? "

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" I do not think the question arises."

Rao Sahib P. V. GOPALAN :—" May I submit, Sir, that in (*a*) of the question the caste of persons appointed is asked for ? That has encouraged me to put this supplementary question."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. the Minister has already stated that the castes will appear in the answer that he has promised to furnish. The hon. Member will then have the opportunity of asking his question. At present the Government say they have no information."

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS.

Emigration.

Normal distribution of out-door and in-door coolies on the Assam Tea Estates.

396 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : With reference to the supplementary answer to question No. 1395, will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state what normally the distribution of out-door and in-door coolies is on the Assam Tea Estates ?

A.—The Government have no information. The Government of Assam have been addressed on the subject.

Emigration to Mauritius.

397 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether emigration to Mauritius permitted for one year from 31st May 1923 by G.O. No. 1449, Law (General), dated 28th May 1923, was resumed during 1923–24 ;

(*b*) if so, the number of emigrants that left this Presidency ;

(*c*) whether the period of one year sanctioned in the Government Order referred to has been extended ; and

(*d*) if so, the conditions on which the extension has been granted ?

A.—(*a*) & (*c*) No.

(*b*) & (*d*) Do not arise.

[5th March 1925

Percentage of female and child emigrants.

398 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House the report of the Commissioner of Labour on the results of his inquiry into the disparity in the percentage of female and child emigrants from the different ports, called for in G.O. No. 189, Law (General), dated 25th June 1924?

A.—A copy of the report is placed on the table.[a]

Observance of rule 17 of the Indian Emigration Rules.

399 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state the steps taken by the Local Government to see that rule 17 of the Indian Emigration Rules is strictly enforced, viz., every labourer whom a kangani induces to emigrate should be supplied with a statement of information approved by the Government of India which contains a clause about repatriation?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the concluding portion of paragraph 4 of G.O. No. 1890, Law (General), dated the 25th June 1924, which was placed on the Editors' Table.

The working of the Indian Emigration Act.

400 *Q.*—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to lay on the table of the House the report of the Commissioner of Labour for 1923 on the working of the Indian Emigration Act referred to in his administration report?

A.—G.O. No. 1890, Law (General), dated 25th June 1924, recording the Emigration and Immigration Report for 1923 was placed on the Editors' Table. If the hon. Member desires it a copy will be supplied to him.

Forests.

Forest department and use of fuel by pilgrims, Dharmapuri.

401 *Q.*—Mr. C. V. VENKATARAMANA AYYANGAR: Will the hon. the Home Member, the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a sum of Rs. 50 sanctioned by the Taluk Board of Dharmapuri to a social service association formed to look to the comforts and conveniences of the pilgrims that come to Hogayanakal in Adi and Arpisi every year was not paid to the association, and, if so, whether the officers of the Public Works Department in Salem were responsible for such non-payment;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that a recommendation has been made to introduce the Town Nuisance Act to this place;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that till the year 1919 the pilgrims were permitted to use as fuel dry pieces of wood in the unreserved forests along the banks of the Cauvery and that in the year 1919 the Forest officers prevented them from doing so, but on the representation of the association agreed to sell

[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 882 infra.

5th March 1925]

fuel to them at Rs. 3-4-0 per ton and the association gave it to the pilgrims at that cost price itself; whether it is a fact that for the last two years the Government have raised the price to Rs. 7-8-0 and are compelling the pilgrims to purchase fuel at that price; whether it is a fact that most of this fuel is green and includes valuable timber such as vagai and karungali;

(*d*) whether it is a fact that only thirty tons of fuel including valuable trees were gathered and sold this year; that almost all the subordinates in the whole range assembled at the place; what is the total list of Forest officers including subordinates that came to the place for the sake of one day's festival last Adi and what was the amount of their travelling allowance and batta; and

(*e*) whether it is a fact that the Taluk Board of Dharmapuri have passed a resolution protesting against the procedure adopted by the Forest Department and recommending that the pilgrims may be left to gather fuel free and have the Government passed any orders in the matter and if so to what effect?

A.—(*a*) The Government have no information.

(*b*) No.

(*c*) There are no unreserves on the banks of the Cauvery at Hoganikal. The system of allowing pilgrims to collect dead fuel from reserves on permits was discontinued in 1914-15 and fuel was sold at Rs. 4 per ton, raised later to Rs. 5 per ton. In 1920-21 dead fuel was sold to the association at Rs. 3-4-0 per ton, raised in 1922 to Rs. 4-8-0 per ton, and, as the Government are informed, retailed to the pilgrims at a profit. In 1923, the departmental supply of fuel was resumed as the Association refused to maintain an adequate stock. The price fixed was Rs. 5 which was raised to Rs. 7-8-0 in 1924 mainly on account of the increased cost of collection. The fuel sold is dead wood of the Vedatharai (Diehrostachye Cinerea) species. Pilgrims are not compelled to buy.

(*d*) In 1924, thirty tons of dead wood fuel were collected but only 2½ tons were sold to pilgrims as their number was less than usual owing to a rumour of cholera. The officers of the department present were the Forest Range Officer, three Foresters of neighbouring sections and six guards of adjoining beats. The batta and travelling allowance paid for the festival day amounted to Rs. 3.

(*e*) Yes: the resolution is under the consideration of Government.

Labour.

Wages of labourers in the Presidency.

402 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the report of the Commissioner of Labour on the wages paid to workers in the different industries in the Presidency promised in his administration report for 1923-24 has been received; and

(*b*) if so, when the Government propose to publish it?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) The Government do not propose to publish the results of the wages census as, owing to the difficulty of obtaining accurate statistics, the Labour Commissioner was unable to say that they were either complete or accurate.

Proposed repeal of Workmen's Breach of Contract Act.

403 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Home Member and the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether, in view of the proposed repeal of the Workmen's Breach of Contract Act, with effect from 1st April 1926, there is any proposal under consideration of Government for passing a local measure to suit particular conditions of employment in this Presidency; and

(*b*) if so, whether they propose to hold a public enquiry into the conditions that necessitate such a local measure before they decide on the need for it?

A.—(*a*) No.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Irrigation.

The tank at Narayanadevaratteri, Hospet taluk.

404 Q.—Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR: Will the hon. the Law Member and the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) the capacity (by months of supply of water to the ayacut) of the tank at Narayanadevaratteri, Hospet taluk, according to the settlement registers;

(*b*) whether the tank has since silted up and also the supply channel to it from Hampapatnam is in disrepair with the result that the capacity of the tank has diminished by at least 25 per cent;

(*c*) whether the Resettlement Officer observing the said reduction in the capacity of the tank has reported to the Collector and the Government that either the supply should be improved or the classification of the tank should be suitably altered, and if so, the orders passed thereon;

(*d*) whether the ryots of Narayanadevaratteri submitted a mahazar to the Government or the Collector on or about 28th October 1922 inviting attention to the need for early repairs to the tank and whether the Collector thereon endorsed to the ryots in January 1923 that the execution of the necessary repairs was under contemplation by the Government;

(*e*) whether any steps have been taken by the Government since then to carry out the contemplated repairs, and if so, what they are, and if not, the reasons for the delay; and

(*f*) the amount of remission granted annually under the tank in question during the last ten years?

A.—The Government have received no report or mahazar on the subject.

5th March 1925]

Legislative.

Sale price of list of questions and answers of the Madras Legislative Council.

405 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why the lists of questions put and answered at the meeting of the Legislative Council, Madras, on 3rd, 4th and 5th December are priced at 5, 3 and 3 annas, respectively, while the entire proceedings of the Council including the said questions and answers for each of the days referred to above can be had only at As. 2?

A.—The prices of the lists of questions and answers of each day vary according to their size and depend on the cost of printing them. Further, casual buyers have to pay higher prices as only a few copies of the lists of questions and answers are sold. The price of each day's proceedings has been fixed at a definite rate of two annas for each day in pursuance of a resolution of the Legislative Council.

Appointments.

Natives of Malabar employed in the South Kanara district.

406 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: Will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to place before the House—

(a) a statement showing the number of officials gazetted and non-gazetted including clerks appointed and transferred from among the natives of Malabar in the several departments in the district of South Kanara, viz. :—(i) Revenue, (ii) Judicial, (iii) Educational, (iv) Postal, (v) Forest and (vi) Public Works, etc., and vice versa in these departments from South Kanara to Malabar; and to state

(b) whether it is a fact that several offices of the various departments in the district of South Kanara are getting flooded with natives of Malabar while hardly any natives of South Kanara find their way into the corresponding offices in Malabar; and

(c) whether it has been the policy of Government to confine appointments to clerical and menial posts in the offices in each district to the natives of that district as far as possible; if so, whether that policy has been changed?

A.—(a) & (b) The Government do not think that any useful purpose would be served by gathering the information.

(c) The Government have not enunciated any policy in the matter. The district officers ordinarily get most of their recruits locally.

Indian Civil Service.

Officials retired on proportionate pension.

407 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: With reference to the answer to question No. 1408 (a), dated 5th December 1924, will the hon. the Member for Finance be pleased to state now the names of the 25 officials who retired on proportionate pension, and if not, the reasons therefor?

A.—The Government do not consider it desirable to give the information.

Irrigation.

Repairs to Gazapur tank, Bellary district.

408 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the bund of the Gazapur tank, Kudligi taluk, Bellary, requires repairs, and that the water leaks out in considerable quantity when the tank receives its supply of water, and if so, how long the bund has been in need of those repairs;

(*b*) whether the leakage was located last year, but the needed repairs were dropped owing to the tank receiving its supply of water then;

(*c*) the arrangements that have been made since then for carrying out the needed repairs before the tank receives its next supply; and

(*d*) the total ayacut under the tank and the extent thereof grown with single and double crops respectively every year during the last ten years?

A.—The Government have no information.

Land Revenue.

Rules governing reservation of lands.

409 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: With reference to clause (*c*) of question No. 1390, dated 5th December 1924, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state or give references to the rules and special orders regarding reservation of lands?

A.—The hon. Member is referred to paragraph 38 of Board's Standing Order No. 15.

Religious and Charitable Endowments.

Amending the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1924.

410 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state whether, and if so, when the responsible Minister himself or a Member of his party will initiate legislation in the Council to modify the procedure laid down in the Hindu Religious Endowments Act, 1924, for the modification of schemes already settled or deemed to have been settled under the Act, as suggested by His Excellency the Viceroy in his statement No. 2-24-G., dated Delhi, 29th December 1924?

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to the press communiqué issued by Government on the 30th January 1925.

Town-planning.

Action on the resolution regarding the housing of the poor.

411 *Q.*—Mr. C. Gopala Menon: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) the action taken on the resolution of Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar, M.L.C., on the housing of the poor moved in the Council on 20th January 1922;

5th March 1925]

(*b*) whether the Housing Committee of the Public Health Council referred to by the hon. Minister for Local Self-Government in his speech replying to the resolution have submitted their proposals;

(*c*) if so, the nature and extent of those proposals; and

(*d*) whether the Government propose to take action on the lines suggested in the resolution above referred to?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*c*) In the reply to the resolution, it was pointed out that the only course open to the Government was to wait until the Housing Committee with the help of the Town-Planning Expert outlined a general plan of action as regards housing and that until the Town-Planning Act was given a fair trial it would not be fair to introduce any other legislation imposing responsibilities on local bodies in regard to housing schemes.

In April 1922 the Government dissolved the Consultative Council of Public Health of which the Housing Committee formed a part, as a result of the formation of the Advisory Committee for Public Health Administration. The Housing Committee accordingly ceased to exist. No proposals were submitted by the committee before its dissolution.

(*d*) The answer is in the negative. The attention of the hon. Member is invited in this connexion to the answer to question No. 252.

Report on the work of Director of Town-Planning.

412 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether any report of the work of the Director of Town-Planning and of the Madras City Town-Planning Trust has been received;

(*b*) whether it is contemplated to extend the period of office of the Director of Town-Planning; and

(*c*) if so, whether the Council will be given an opportunity to know the nature and extent of work done till now since his appointment by publishing a report on the subject before the time of the Budget Session?

A.—(*a*) The answer is in the affirmative as regards the Director of Town-Planning and in the negative as regards the Madras City and Suburban Town-Planning Trust.

(*b*) It has been decided to continue the appointment for a further period of three years.

(*c*) The answer is in the affirmative.[a]

Collection of betterment tax under the Town-Planning Act

413 *Q.*—Mr. C. GOPALA MENON: Will the hon. the Minister for Local Self-Government be pleased to give a list of municipalities and local boards which have been collecting betterment tax under the Madras Town-Planning Act and the amount collected up to date and the local board areas to which the Madras Town-Planning Act has so far been applied?

[a] Printed as Appendix VI on pages 883-886 infra.

[5th March 1925

A.—The attention of the hon. Member is invited to clauses (*a*) and (*g*) of the answer given to question No. 1202 at the meeting held in November 1924.

The only local body which could have collected the betterment contribution in 1924–25 is the Chittoor Municipal Council. There is however no definite information whether the council has actually levied the tax. The information has been called for.

The Town-Planning Act has been extended to the following local board areas :—

District.		Area to which the Act has been extended.
South Arcot	...	Vriddhachalam union.
Chingleput	...	Certain areas under the Saidapet Taluk Board—vide Notification No. 729 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 29th July 1924.
Coimbatore	...	Kollegal union.
Guntur ...	...	Bapatla union.
The Nilgiris	...	Certain areas in the Kotagiri village—vide Notification No. 579 on pages 233–34 of Part I-A of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 10th June 1924.
Tanjore ...	...	Papanasam union. Pattukkottai union. Nannilam union.
Trichinopoly	...	Manapparai union.

Education.

Provincialization of teaching staff.

414 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state whether the Government have in contemplation any scheme whereby they are to provincialize the entire teaching staff inclusive of teachers in private services

A.—No.

Muhammadan elementary schools in Trichinopoly district, etc.

415 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to place on the table of the Council a list of aided and unaided Muhammadan elementary schools within the districts of Trichinopoly, Salem, Coimbatore, South Arcot and the Nilgiris?

A.—The hon. Member may obtain the information from the District Educational Councils of the districts mentioned in the question as it is not available with the Government.

5th March 1925]

Proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction regarding the opening of new elementary schools.

416 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MIAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction, dated 13th September 1924, regarding the opening of new elementary schools were passed and communicated to District Educational Officers;

(*b*) if so, whether a copy of the proceedings will be placed on the table of the Council;

(*c*) whether the said proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction will be communicated to the District Educational Council for report and opinion;

(*d*) if the said proceedings are sent only to District Educational Officers, whether the District Educational Officers are permitted to place them before the District Educational Council and take their opinion;

(*e*) whether these proceedings of the Director of Public Instruction are different and distinct from G.O. No. 1598, Law (Education), dated 16th October 1924; and

(*f*) if different, what the difference is?

A.—(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) A copy of Government Memorandum No. 3336 A-2, dated 9th September 1924, on which the Director of Public Instruction's proceedings were based, is placed on the table.[a]

(*c*) At present this is not necessary.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) Yes.

(*f*) G.O. No. 1598, Law (Education), dated the 16th October 1924, relates to the opening of schools in the current year whilst the memorandum of Government referred to above has reference only to 1925–26.

Elementary schools for Muhammadans under the new scheme.

417 Q.—Mr. MUHAMMAD GHOUSE MEAN SAHIB: Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state—

(*a*) how many schools out of the total of 825 new schools proposed to be opened are intended for the Muhammadans and in what districts; and

(*b*) the total number of schools proposed to be opened under the new scheme in the districts of Salem, Coimbatore, South Arcot and Trichinopoly?

A.—(*a*) The hon. Member is referred to the answer to question No. 1420 asked at the meeting of the Legislative Council held on the 5th December 1924.

(*b*) The hon. Member is referred to G.O. No. 1598, Law (Education), dated the 16th October 1924, which has been laid on the table.

---

[a] Printed as Appendix VII on pages 887–888 infra.

[5th March 1925

Libraries in the Presidency similar to the Imperial Library.

418 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education be pleased to state with reference to the advertisement appearing at page 46, Part II, Miscellaneous Notifications, of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, dated 13th January 1925, that the Imperial Library in the Secretariat buildings at Calcutta is also a lending library and is free to all except children without any subscription—

(*a*) whether there are any library or libraries of the same or a similar kind in the Presidency ; and

(*b*) if so, which of them are also lending libraries and free to all except children with or without any subscription to pay ?

A.—There are only two Government public libraries in the Presidency, namely, the Connemara Public Library and the Government Oriental Manuscripts Library. The former is not a lending library. The conditions under which books in the Oriental Manuscripts Library are lent to the public are contained in G.O. No. 148, Law (Education), dated the 2nd February 1925, placed on the Editors' Table. The Government have no information as to the practice in private libraries.

Agriculture.

Chintaladevi cattle-farm.

419 *Q.*—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state ; with reference to answer to clause (*b*) of question No. 1384 and supplemental questions and answers thereon dated 4th December 1924, whether acting Deputy Director Mr. Raghava Nayudu reported at any time as to the unsuitability of the site of Chintaladevi farm for purposes of cattle-breeding and rearing ?

A.—In a monthly report of the year 1920 the then Deputy Director of Agriculture, Livestock, remarked that cattle did not do well in the rainy season and advised against increasing the stock till further experience was gained but stated that it was too early to express an opinion. No further report has been traced.

Fisheries.

The 'Krusadi' island.

420 *Q.*—Rao Sahib U. Rama Rao : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that a small island named Krusadi near Rameswaram was acquired some years ago by the Fisheries Department for the purpose of establishing a pearl farm ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that several buildings have been constructed therein for that purpose ;

(*c*) the total expenditure incurred by the Government till now, on account of the value of the island and cost of the buildings ;

5th March 1925]

(*d*) whether it is a fact that no pearl culture has been undertaken though it is several years since the buildings were put up, and if so, why that work was not undertaken ; and

(*e*) whether Mr. Hornell, the late Director of Fisheries, who is said to be a pearl expert, trained any of the subordinates in pearl culture?

A.—(*a*) The island was ordered to be acquired in 1915 for the dual purpose of establishing a pearl oyster farm and a marine biological station.

(*b*) An existing building was improved and additional buildings were constructed at a cost of Rs. 9,804 for carrying on the work of biological research.

(*c*) Rs. 23,298-5-1.

(*d*) The pearl oyster farm scheme was abandoned in 1918 as, owing to the competition of Japanese pearls, its success was doubtful.

(*e*) No.

Veterinary.

Retrenchment in the Veterinary department.

421 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether in the current year any retrenchment has been effected in the Veterinary department with regard to the contingencies supplied to the several dispensaries in the Presidency ;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, the amount saved and the particular items in which the saving has been effected ; and

(*c*) whether the opening of new dispensaries is not contemplated ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) Savings to the extent of about Rs. 8,000 are anticipated in the budget allotment under contingencies.

(*c*) Yes, if funds are available.

II

GENERAL DISCUSSION ON THE BUDGET.

* Dr. JOHN MATTHAI :—" Mr. President, it has been pointed out by more than one speaker in the course of the general discussion that the most interesting thing about the budget which has just been presented is that it is a deficit budget, that it shows an unprecedentedly large deficit. When I look at the budget I feel that the interesting thing is not so much the deficit that it shows as the fact that the principal sources of revenue in this Presidency have now become definitely inelastic. I do not suppose that there is any other feature more important than that in the present budget, the fact that the sources of revenue upon which the Government depends are sources which may not expand necessarily in the future. That to my mind is the most interesting, the most important and, may I say, the most significant fact about this budget. If you, for example, take the figures relating to the accounts and the figures relating to the revised estimates and the budget estimates, you get proof of a kind which I think ought to convince anybody that this Presidency is now

* An asterisk at the commencement of a speech indicates revision by the Member.